

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SECTO 13120 070026Z
ACTION SS-15

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN BUDAPEST
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UNCLAS SECTO 13120

PASS NSC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS), HU, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A LETTER, DATED JANUARY 6, 1978, FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT LOSONCZI. SECRETARY VANCE PRESENTED THE ORIGINAL OF THE LETTER TO LOSONCZI AFTER THE CEREMONY FOR THE RETURN OF THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN ON JANUARY 6.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

A DELEGATION OF DISTINGUISHED AMERICANS, REPRESENTING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND HEADED BY MY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE, HAS JUST RETURNED TO THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE FOR PERMANENT DISPLAY, THE CROWN OF SAINT STEPHAN AND OTHER CORONATION REGALIA OF HUNGARIA.

IT IS WITH A GENUINE SENSE OF PRIDE THAT I AM ABLE TO RETURN TO THE PEOPLE OF HUNGARY THIS PRICELESS TREASURE, WHICH THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN PRIVILEGED TO SHELTER SINCE THE TERRIBLE DEVASTATION OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR. I SEE IN THIS ACT THE REAFFIRMATION OF THE TRADITIONAL BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES.

I KNOW HOW MUCH THE CROWN, GIVEN TO SAINT STEPHEN BY POPE SYLVESTER II FOR HIS CORONATION IN THE YEAR

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1000, MEANS TO THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE. I AM AWARE OF THE CROWN'S RICH TRADITION AND HISTORY. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE THE DEEPEST RESPECT FOR THE RELIGIOUS AND NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CROWN AND SHARE MY PRIDE IN RETURNING IT.

MR. PRESIDENT, THE TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES ARE DEEP AND REACH BACK TO THE FOUNDING OF THE AMERICAN

NATION TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO. THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS ARE GROWING EVERY YEAR TO OUR MUTUAL BENEFIT. AS I MADE THE DECISIONS WHICH WERE CARRIED TO COMPLETION TODAY, BOTH OF THESE THOUGHTS WERE FIRMLY IN MY MIND.

IT IS MY SINCERE HOPE THAT WE MAY CONTINUE TO BUILD ON THESE TIES TO THE MUTUAL ADVANTAGE OF OUR PEOPLES. WE BOTH SHARE A COMMON INTEREST IN THE FULL REALIZATION OF THE GOALS SET FORTH IN THE FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE. THE STRENGTHENING OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP AND THE EXPANSION OF AREAS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES WILL, I AM CONFIDENT, CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE AND PROSPERITY FOR OUR PEOPLES.

IN CONCLUSION, MR. PRESIDENT, I WISH TO EXPRESS MY THANKS TO YOU FOR THE COURTESY WHICH YOU HAVE PERSONALLY EXTENDED TO THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION AND FOR THE HOSPITALITY SHOWN BY THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE.

SINCERELY,
JIMMY CARTER

HIS EXCELLENCY
PAL LOSONCZI
PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL OF THE
HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
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END TEXT.VANCE

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